

Karolina Nugumanova

Gender and Feminist Studies — Migration — Comparative Political Studies — Mix Methods

Scuola Normale Superiore

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Research Profile

I am a PhD candidate in political science and sociology specializing in the gendered dimensions of forced political displacement under conditions of war and authoritarianism. My research examines how emotions, political opportunity structures, and transnational repression shape the experiences, vulnerabilities, and civic engagement of politically displaced populations, with a particular focus on women migrants from post-2022 Russia. Methodologically, I combine large-scale panel surveys, experiments, and in-depth qualitative interviews to produce research with both academic and policy relevance for migration governance, protection frameworks, and gender justice initiatives.

Academic Appointments

Visiting Fellow , <i>Harvard University</i> , Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies	Upcoming: Jan–May 2027
Invited by Prof. Grzegorz Ekiert	
Visiting Research Fellow , <i>University of Tokyo</i> , Institute of Social Science	Apr–Aug 2026
Invited by Prof. Masaaki Higashijima	
Visiting Research Fellow , <i>Waseda University</i> , Faculty of Human Sciences	Apr–Aug 2026
Invited by Prof. Naoto Higuchi	

Education

PhD in Political Science and Sociology , Scuola Normale Superiore	Expected 2027
Academic advisors: Martín Portos García; Lorenzo Zamponi.	
Dissertation: <i>Gendered Mobilization in Exile: Understanding the Activism of Post-2022 Russian Emigrants through Emotions, Structure, and Movement Dynamics</i> .	
MA in Sociology , European University at St. Petersburg	2020–2022
— Exchange Student, <i>Venice International University</i> (Feb–May 2021)	
BA in Sociology , Novosibirsk State University	2016–2020

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

🔗 Nugumanova, Karolina. Micromobilising Emotion: How Feminist Anti-War Resistance Builds Affective Infrastructure in Exile. <i>Communist and Post-Communist Studies</i> (SSCI, Scopus).	2026
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🔗 Nugumanova, Karolina. “Great, Great Sorrow and Eternal Silence”: An Experiment in Sociological Dream Interpretation after February 24, 2022. *The February Journal*.

2023

Manuscripts Under Review / Advanced Stage

Nugumanova, K., Kamalov, E., & Sergeeva, I. *Reverse Gender Gap in Transnational Activism: War-Driven Political Engagement among Russian Post-2022 Emigrants*.

Selected Works in Progress

Kamalov, E., Nugumanova, K., & Sergeeva, I. *Exposure to Transnational Repression and Political Engagement: Evidence from a Panel of Russian Exiles*.

Kamalov, E., Nugumanova, K., & Sergeeva, I. *Destination Preferences in Secondary Migration Among Politically Induced Migrants from Authoritarian States: Evidence from a Conjoint Experiment*.

Nugumanova, K. *The Gendered Opportunity Structure of Exile: How Host-Country Contexts Shape Migrant Political Participation*.

Academic Positions and Research Projects

Principal Investigator, *The Science of Dreams* (1500+ respondents). 2022–present

Principal Investigator, *Media Literacy and Critical Thinking* (WOT-Foundation). 2021–2022

Co-Investigator, *OutRush*, Panel Survey on Russian emigrants 2022–present

Co-Investigator, *Democracy in Exile* (DemEx Project, NSF-funded). 2024–present

Co-Investigator, *Feminist Anti-War Resistance in Exile* (55 interviews). 2023–2024

Researcher, *Building a Commons in the Russian Diaspora* (580 interviews). 2022–2023

Expert and Foresight Facilitator, *European Commission*. 2024–2025

Competitive Grants and Fellowships

€74,000 – PhD Fellowship, PNRR (Italy), fully funded doctoral grant 2023–2027

€8,570 – MA Scholarship, European University at St. Petersburg 2020–2022

€5,000 – Mobility Research Grant, Scuola Normale Superiore 2023–2025

€4,458 – Visiting Fellow Grant, Scuola Normale Superiore 2026

€400 – SPS Summer Academy travel grant, European University Institute 2022

Awards and Prizes

National Sociology Olympiad (Russia) – Higher School of Economics 2020–2022

Silver Award (2022) – €1,500

Bronze Award (2021) – €1,000

Winner (2020) – honorary award

Teaching and Guest Lectures

Guest lecture (co-led session), <i>Political Behavior</i> – Scuola Normale Superiore, Florence. Topic: Gender inequalities in political participation. [Syllabus]	2025
Guest lecture, Waseda University, Tokyo. Topic: Emotions, War, and Political Action in Exile: Gendered Patterns of Mobilization among Migrants from Authoritarian Regimes. [Event]	2024
Guest lecture, Summer School <i>GENDER-LIKBEZ 4.0</i> – European University at St. Petersburg. Topic: Gender differences in political and civic activism among Russian migrants.	2023

Research Reports and Analytical Publications

🔗 <i>On the Move: Mobility, Integration, and Dynamics of Russian Emigration in 2022–2024</i> , with Kamalov and Sergeeva.	2025
🔗 <i>From Russia to Latin America: Integration, Challenges, and Aspirations of Russian Post-2022 Emigrants</i> , with Kamalov and Sergeeva.	2025
🔗 <i>Men’s Words, Women’s Work: Exploring the Reverse Gender Gap in Post-2022 Russian Emigration. Russian Analytical Digest.</i>	2024
🔗 <i>Mapping and Gathering Russian Artists and Cultural Workers in Exile.</i>	2024
🔗 <i>One and a Half Years Later: Progress and Barriers in the Integration of Russian Emigrants.</i>	2024
🔗 <i>How do you sleep during the war? Posle Media.</i>	2023
🔗 <i>I had a dream about Putin. What war-time dreams tell us about reality. Republic</i> (in Russian).	2023

Selected Academic Conferences and Talks

APSA (American Political Science Association) , co-presenter & chair & discussant	2026
ECPR (European Consortium for Political Research) , presenter	2025, 2026
ASEEES Annual Convention , presenter & discussant & invited roundtable speaker	2024, 2025
ISA / ESA / AIS Gens Conference (Gender Studies) , presenter	2025
Aleksanteri Conference , University of Helsinki, presenter	2023, 2024
Russia Expert Seminar , European University Institute, invited speaker	2025
Migration and Diversity Workshop , ZoiS, Berlin, invited speaker	2025
Migration Working Group , European University Institute, presenter	2024
Gender, Peace and Security Workshop (acceptance rate 3%), British Institute of East Africa & University of Oslo & ERC, presenter	2025
LCSR Workshop on Comparative Values , Higher School of Economics, presenter	2024
Cross-Border Voices Workshop , ZoiS, Ilia State University, invited speaker	2024
Russian Journalists in Exile , University of Helsinki, Riga, invited speaker	2024
New Russian Exodus Seminar , Yerevan State University, invited speaker	2024

Professional Training and Methods Training

Data Scientist in R , DataCamp (88-hour course)	2022
GESIS Spring Seminar , Experimental Designs in Social and Behavioral Studies	2025
Spring School on Democratic Backsliding and Political Conflicts , EUI & SNS	2022
CITI Program , Ethics in Human Research (Indiana University requirement)	2022
EUI SPS Summer Academy , “(In)equality, Democracy and Solidarity in Europe”	2022

Academic Service

Reviewer for *Politics & Gender*; *European Journal of Politics and Gender*; *Problems of Post-Communism* (SSCI-indexed).

Conference panel discussant: APSA (forthcoming 2026), ASEEEES (2025, 2026); European Graduate Network (2024).

Conference chair: APSA (2026)

Public Outreach and Engagement

Media Articles and Op-Eds 2022–present

Articles on war, migration, and political activism published in outlets including *Russian Analytical Digest*, *Republic*, *Posle Media*, and others

Invited Speaker, Kovcheg Network (NGO for Russian Emigrants) 2023–present

Regular expert talks on migration, political displacement, and integration

Guest, Podcasts and Radio Programs 2023–present

Regular guest appearances on platforms including *Meduza* and *SBS Radio*

Co-host, Political Video Blog *Politica Zanovo* (Politics Anew) 2022

Co-host of a political analysis video blog focusing on contemporary Russian politics

Skills

Languages: Russian (native), English (advanced), Italian (intermediate).

Methods: multilevel modeling; panel surveys and conjoint experiments; qualitative interviews.

Software: R; \LaTeX ; Qualtrics; Git; MaxQDA; MS Office Suite.

Research practice: ethical and trauma-informed interviewing and research with human subjects (CITI certification); participatory and feminist research methods; research with vulnerable and displaced populations; reproducible research; open science and research data management (certified by Scuola Normale Superiore).

Updated: May 2026